

UNIFIED ARIZONA VETERANS – 1 October 2005  
Approved December 3, 2005

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Unified Arizona Veterans was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with proper ceremonies by Chairman Mary Ellen Piotrowski.

Introductions: Al Dotson, VA Medical Center, and Todd Bradford, TAB Services LLC.

Minutes/Treasurer's report: none

Sickness and Distress: Lou Blakely and wife are not feeling well. Donna Adams' husband had heart surgery and has returned home.

Reports:

Legislation – Defense bill for 2006 will not be voted on until Nov 06. Authorization bill will be on the Senate floor on 3 Oct 05.

Luella Emmons, ADVS Assistant Deputy Director reported that the Medal of Honor function was a great success. The Governor's Task Force is looking to a State Veteran Home in Tucson, veteran's benefits counselors, and a state cemetery in the north. A meeting of the Task Force will be in the executive tower, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, 5 October 2002. The rest of the meetings are 2 Nov 05 at 1 p.m. and the final meeting is 15 Dec 05.

Chaplain Bohach reported he has been receiving e-mails for different people stating that all Senators and people in Washington do not like veterans and compared them to the likes of welfare recipients.

Old Business: None.

New Business: The Hall of Fame needs people to attend. The temporary home for memorabilia is located in the State Veteran Home.

Good of the Order: Fair day for veterans is at 1 p.m. on 30 Oct 05.

Al Rodriguez discussed the running of the Unified Arizona Veterans.

Todd Bradford discussed Resolution No. 638, submitted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, entitled "Establish a National Trust Fund" to compensate veterans for service connected illnesses caused by asbestos exposure. This bill will be going on the floor of the Senate soon. Mr. Bradford stated that all veterans should contact Senator Kyl to let him know the veterans are behind this bill.

Mike Clemenson reported on the happenings occurring at Luke AFB and elsewhere; focus group on the enlisted and officers clubs. The Tempe Town Lake Run is 28-30 Oct; Stand Down 28 Oct 05; Hall of Fame 28 Oct 05; and the traveling Wall will be here over Veterans Day.

Lencho Othon praised Chairman Mary Ellen for all the work she does for the veterans, all the committees she sits on, and her professionalism. Lencho stated he was proud to be associated with the UAV.

Al Dotson, VA Medical Center, thanked the Chairman for the lap blankets.

A big thank you went to all who helped with the Medal of Honor program.

Chairman Mary Ellen won the 50/50 drawing and donated hers to the Stand Down.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. with proper ceremonies. The next meeting is scheduled for 5 Nov 2005.

Marge Ahrens  
Acting Secretary